



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Naokuni INADA et al.

Group Art Unit : 1772

Appl. No. : 10/567,084

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/010490)

Examiner : not assigned

I.A. Filed : July 23, 2004

For : PRE-EXPANDED BEADS OF OLEFIN-MODIFIED
POLYSTYRENE-BASED RESIN, PRODUCTION METHOD
THEREFOR AND EXPANDED MOLDED ARTICLE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring the following information to the attention of the Examiner, which includes information cited and discussed in the specification and the International Search Report issued in connection with International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/010490, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. Copies of the International Search Report (in English and Japanese) are enclosed herewith. The Examiner is invited to review these materials to inspect the relevance indicated during international examination with respect to the documents cited therein.

The following is a list of the documents cited in the International Search Report:

- (1) JP 49-85187 A, August 15, 1974, and its family member
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 3,959,189; which is identified in the International Search Report as a family member of JP 49-85187
- (3) JP 52-076372 A, June 27, 1977;
- (4) JP 1-284536 A, November 15, 1989, accompanied by an English language Abstract;
- (5) JP 6-122781 A, May 06, 1994, accompanied by an English language Abstract.

Applicants further direct the Examiner's attention to the following documents cited in the specification of the present application:

- (6) Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication SHO 54(1979)-119563; cited on page 3, lines 14-15 of the present application; and
- (7) Japanese Examined Patent Publication SHO 59(1984)-3487; cited on page 4, lines 9-10 of the present application.

Applicants further direct the Examiner to the following additional documents:

- (8) WO 0187858, November 22, 2001, accompanied by an English language Abstract;

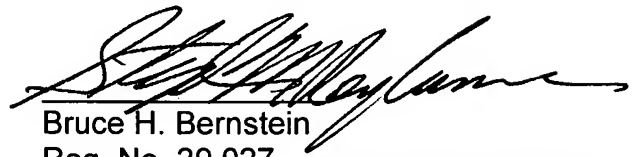
- (9) Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication HEI 10(1998)-265511;
accompanied by an English language Abstract
- (10) Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication JP 2000-204105, accompanied
by an English language Abstract;
- (11) Japanese Examined Patent Publication HEI 8(1996)19168;
- (12) Japanese Examined Patent Publication JP 2915134;
- (13) Japanese Examined Patent Publication JP 2760361;
- (14) Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication SHO 49(1974)-5473;
- (15) Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication SHO 51(1976)-37980.

Copies of the above-noted documents are enclosed together with a duly completed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is accordingly requested to consider each of these documents, and to make them of record in this application by initialing in the appropriate spaces on the Form PTO-1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner include a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 with the next communication from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

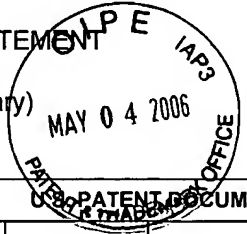
Respectfully Submitted,
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FORM PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. P29224		Application No. 10/567,084	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)							
				Applicant Naokuni INADA et al.		Filing Date July 23, 2004	
						Group 1772	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER •INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		3 9 5 9 1 8 9	05/25/76	KITAMORI			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	49	- 8 5 1 8 7	08/15/74	JAPAN			
	52	- 0 7 6 3 7 2	06/27/77	JAPAN			
	1	- 2 8 4 5 3 6	11/15/89	JAPAN			
	6	- 1 2 2 7 8 1	05/06/94	JAPAN			
	54	- 1 1 9 5 6 3	09/17/79	JAPAN			
	59	- 3 4 8 7	01/24/84	JAPAN			
		0 1 8 7 8 5 8	11/22/01	W.I.P.O			
	10	- 2 6 5 5 1 1	10/06/98	JAPAN			
	2000	- 2 0 4 1 0 5	07/25/00	JAPAN			
	8	- 1 9 1 6 8	02/28/96	JAPAN			
		2 9 1 5 1 3 4	04/16/99	JAPAN			
		2 7 6 0 3 6 1	03/20/98	JAPAN			
	49	- 5 4 7 3	01/18/74	JAPAN			
	51	- 3 7 9 8 0	03/30/76	JAPAN			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	1	English language Abstract of JP 1-284536.					
	2	English language Abstract of JP 6-122781.					
	3	English language Abstract of WO 0187858.					
	4	English language Abstract of JP 10-265511.					
	5	English language Abstract of JP 2000-204105.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							